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applying code, to apply the selected adaptation algorithm to received live input data as it is being recognized and thereby to improve the recognition accuracy of the speech recognizer; and

updating code, to apply the adapted speech recognizer in the environment.

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17 The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one application-specific feature is selected from the group consisting of channel characteristics, dialects, pronunciation idiosyncrasies and speaking style.

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted to place the application in better form and more particularly point out the invention. Entry is respectfully solicited.

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims, as amended, are patentable for at least the following reasons.

It is respectfully submitted that the prior art of record, either along or in combination, does not anticipate or make obvious any of the instant claims, as amended, at least because they do not teach, show or describe that without supervision, selecting at least one adaptation algorithm from a plurality of adaptation algorithms, and applying the selected adaptation algorithm to the received live input data as it is being recognized to improve at least one application-specific feature for the recognition accuracy of the speech recognizer, as recited in amended Claim 1. As further described the instant specification at page 11, line 11 through page 12, line 3.

In particular, although the Sabourin Reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,208,964, hereinafter "Sabourin"), shows an adaptation module 112, it does not select from different adaptation algorithms to learn or improve application-specific features, as claimed in claim 1. Sabourin teaches only a transcription adaptation method.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against the independent claims herein. These claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

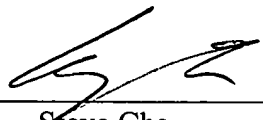
The other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENT
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claim 17 and amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) A method of improving the recognition accuracy of a speech recognizer, comprising the steps of:

deploying the speech recognizer in an environment to receive live input data;

receiving live input data;

without supervision, selecting at least one adaptation algorithm from a plurality of adaptation algorithms, and ~~applying a given~~the selected adaptation algorithm to the received live input data as it is being recognized ~~and a confidence measure to a portion of the live input data,~~ to improve at least one application-specific feature for the recognition accuracy of the speech recognizer; and

redeploying the adapted speech recognizer in the target environment.

14. (Amended) A method of improving the recognition accuracy of a speech recognizer deployed in an environment to receive live input data, comprising the steps of:

receiving live input data; and

without supervision, selecting at least one adaptation algorithm from a plurality of adaptation algorithms, and ~~applying a given~~ speaker-independent adaptation algorithm to the received live input data as it is being recognized ~~and a confidence measure to a portion of the live~~

~~input data,~~ to improve the recognition accuracy of the speech recognizer.

16. (Amended) A computer-readable memory medium, said medium including code for improving the recognition accuracy of a speech recognizer in an environment to receive live input data, the code comprising:

receiving code, to enable live input data reception;

selecting code, to select at least one adaptation algorithm from a plurality of adaptation algorithms,

applying code, to apply ~~a given~~ the selected adaptation algorithm to received live input data as it is being recognized ~~and a confidence measure to a portion of the live input data~~ and thereby to improve the recognition accuracy of the speech recognizer; and

updating code, to apply the adapted speech recognizer in the environment.

17 (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one application-specific feature is selected from the group consisting of channel characteristics, dialects, pronunciation idiosyncrasies and speaking style.